COCHIN LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

Monday, *the* 22nd of Karkadagam 1103.
6th of August 1928.

The House met at Half past Eleven of the Clock with the Diwan-President in the Chair. Messrs. A. L. Antony, P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan and K. T. Mathew were absent.

Questions and Answers.

Protection to Public Wells.

61. **Dr. A. G. Menon.**—Will the Government be pleased to state:—

(1) whether the Government is aware that the public wells at Pariyaram and Nemmara Pudugramam have no parapet walls to prevent accidents;

(2) how long were they in this unprotected condition;

(3) were there any accidents; if so, how many and when;

(4) were there any loss of life; if so, when and how many;

(5) were there any complaints about the dangerous condition of these wells; if so, what action was taken on those complaints?

Mr. I. Raman Menon.—(1) Yes. Towards the close of Mithunam last the matter was brought to the notice of the Government.

(2), (3) & (4) Government have no information. The matter is, however, being enquired into.

(5) No, excepting a letter dated 23rd Mithunam 1103 from the Pariayram Panchayat stating that the well on the feeder road from the Kanjirappalli road towards the Church is in a dangerous condition.

Dr. A. G. Menon.—Is it a fact that the Chalakkudi Apothecary brought the defective condition of this well to the notice of the Panchayatdars at Pariyaram a year and half ago?

Mr. I. Raman Menon.—Yes.

Dr. A. G. Menon.—So that was brought before the Panchayat a year and half ago?

Mr. I. Raman Menon.—Only soon after I saw the letter

Dr. A. G. Menon.—Even before I asked about the well the matter was brought to the notice of the Panchayatdars a year and half ago.

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Mr. I. Raman Menon.—I did not get the information at all.

Dr. A. G. Menon.—You got information only after me. Did you take any action or ask the Panchayat why they did not report?

Mr. I. Raman Menon.—I have issued instructions to the Panchayat to close the well temporarily by a fence. I have not got information as to the exact way in which it has to be got repaired.

Dr. A. G. Menon.—Did you not ask why they did not report the matter earlier?

Mr. I. Raman Menon.—This item was included in the 1102 budget, and I have made a provision of Rs. 200 for cleaning the well. I do not generally try to close the wells.

Dr. A. G. Menon.—So the matter came to your notice in 1102.

Mr. I. Raman Menon.—They did not make a report upon it.

Dr. A. G. Menon.—Did the Government ask why they did not make any report on such an important matter? Was no action taken even after receiving the report?

Mr. I. Raman Menon.—Soon after the question was received.

Ollur Panchayat.

62. **Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.**—Will the Government be pleased to state:—

(a) under what section were Messrs. Kalliathu Chakkory and Kaippilli Ayyappan Menon, members of the Ollur Panchayat, removed from office by the Diwan;

(b) was any explanation taken from them before removal; if so, what was the explanation;

(c) were these two members re-elected;

(d) how many meetings were held by the Panchayat after the re election and the number of meetings attended by these two members?

Mr. I. Raman Menon.—(a) Under section 8 of Regulation V of 1089, as amended by section 20 of Regulation III of 1097.

(b) They were given an opportunity to explain their continued absence. Mr. Ayyappan Menon sent his explanation. Mr. Chakkory remained silent.

(c) & (d) Both of them were re-elected. The result has not been notified pending the disposal of certain complaints against the election.

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